

SAFETY BULLETIN

SB01-002 SEAT BELT USAGE

October 2000 (Initial)

After conducting a seat belt survey between 21 through 31 August 2000, it was found that only 55 percent of motorists were wearing seatbelts. The national average is 68 percent, which includes states that have no seat belt laws. Ft. Riley has a mandatory policy requiring the wearing of seat belts while on the installation. AR 385-55 3-2(b)(1) requires the use of seat belts at all time regardless of your location, and applies to Tactical, GSA, and POVs. The State of Kansas also requires the wearing of seat belts while vehicles are in use.

This past fiscal year the installation had five fatalities, four involved automobiles and one involved a motorcycle. **IN ALL FOUR OF THE AUTOMOBILE FATALITIES NON-USE OF SEAT BELTS WAS A CAUSAL FACTOR.** If you think that you are invincible and that it will not happen to you think again, **73 percent of people ejected from an automobile are killed.**

Leaders at all levels must take a positive role in ensuring that all personnel under their control wear seat belts. Parents must set a good example for their children by requiring everyone in the family vehicle to wear their seat belt. Parents must also ensure that children are in the proper car seat. Age and weight determines the proper type. Contact Paul H. Inman, DES, Safety Division 785-239-3272 if assistance is needed in determining the proper car seat.

Only through commitment and tireless effort will we be able to change the perception on seat belt use. Don't hesitate to tell a friend, family member or co-worker to buckle up before they leave to go home or just across post you just might save their lives.

BUCKLE UP – FORT RILEY

SAFETY BULLETIN